

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 and 13-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 16-18 are amended.

I. Claims 1-16 Satisfy the Requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Accordingly, claims 1 and 16 are amended. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph is respectfully requested.

II. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,078,274 to Inou in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,326,723 B1 to Raj et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that neither Inou or Raj, nor their combination, teaches, discloses or even suggests that at least one of the pair of transparent electrodes have an upper surface that locally protrudes at a plurality of separate locations substantially toward the other of the pair of transparent electrodes so that at least one of the pair of transparent electrodes is provided with a plurality of projections that are formed from the same material, as claimed in claim 1 and similarly claimed in claims 16-18.

Accordingly, the independent claims recite the projections which are the protruding portions of the upper surface of the transparent electrode and the projections are made from the same material as the transparent electrodes. Support for the above recited features can be found at least in Figures 4 and 9.

As shown in Figure 9, the projections 61 and 62 and the transparent electrodes 55 and 56 have the same hashing. As such, the projections 61 and 62 and the transparent electrodes

55 and 56 are formed from the same material. The applied art does not teach, disclose or suggest the above discussed features.

In contrast, Inou discloses antireflective films selectively provided on at least one of the transparent conductive films. That is, the touch panel of Inou has projections that are made from antireflective films 8 (insulating films). However, they are not made from transparent electrodes. See, for example, Figures 1 and 2 of Inou. Further, as discussed in column 4, lines 42-43 of Inou "on the transparent insulating films 2a and 2b, antireflective films 8 are provided by, for example, offset printing..." Thus, it is an object of the invention of Inou to provide a touch panel which enables a bright display screen when mounted on a display device without impairing the input sensitivity of the touch panel. In contrast, according to exemplary embodiments of the present invention, the plurality of projections are formed from transparent electrodes (conductive material).

Raj does not make up for the deficiency of Inou discussed above.

Raj discloses a display screen 10 receiving image light to be displayed through or on the screen and rejects ambient light coming from the viewers side of the screen 10. Thus, Raj reports to provide a screen with adequate gain, brightness and contrast while improving ambient light rejection and reducing speckle. However, the display screen of Raj includes projections which are not made from transparent electrodes.

For at least the reasons outlined above, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-11 and 13-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious in view of Inou and Raj is respectfully solicited.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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